

Food services and drinking places, March 2012 (preliminary data)

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Sales for the food services and drinking places industry rose 0.7% in March from February to \$4.4 billion. During the same period, the price of food purchased in restaurants edged up 0.1%, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

In March, two of the four industry sectors posted higher sales compared with February: the limited-service restaurant sector (+1.1%) and the full-service restaurant sector (+0.7%).

Sales in the drinking places sector and the special food services sector, which includes food service contractors, caterers and mobile food services, both declined by 0.6%.

In March, seven provinces posted higher sales, with the biggest gain in Quebec (+1.6%). The largest decline was observed in Prince Edward Island (-1.0%).

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted and expressed in current dollars.

Seasonally adjusted data are revised for the three previous months. Data are also revised annually. Revisions improve data quality and coherence and are based on information not available at the time of the initial estimates.



Table 1
Food services and drinking places – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2011	December 2011 ^r	January 2012 ^r	February 2012 ^r	March 2012 ^p	February to March 2012	March 2011 to March 2012
	thousands of dollars					% change	
Total, food services sales	4,149,056	4,343,833	4,320,828	4,342,494	4,372,745	0.7	5.4
Full-service restaurants	1,800,894	1,892,076	1,853,516	1,865,611	1,878,158	0.7	4.3
Limited-service eating places	1,799,876	1,893,187	1,905,794	1,914,060	1,935,167	1.1	7.5
Special food services	343,740	355,842	360,843	363,230	361,005	-0.6	5.0
Drinking places	204,546	202,728	200,674	199,592	198,415	-0.6	-3.0
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	57,355	59,356	59,922	59,926	59,666	-0.4	4.0
Prince Edward Island	15,746	16,391	16,465	16,496	16,328	-1.0	3.7
Nova Scotia	106,810	111,389	111,178	110,527	111,398	0.8	4.3
New Brunswick	82,110	81,677	81,423	81,148	81,550	0.5	-0.7
Quebec	831,331	869,548	867,576	874,978	888,958	1.6	6.9
Ontario	1,568,332	1,650,966	1,638,319	1,652,138	1,660,783	0.5	5.9
Manitoba	118,250	129,158	126,097	127,791	128,004	0.2	8.2
Saskatchewan	122,557	132,074	130,016	132,773	134,684	1.4	9.9
Alberta	589,271	623,220	628,112	629,715	629,348	-0.1	6.8
British Columbia	643,900	656,621	648,706	643,845	648,684	0.8	0.7
Yukon	4,494	4,930	4,858	4,893	F	F	F
Northwest Territories	7,083	7,001	6,724	6,943	F	F	F
Nunavut	1,817	1,500	1,433	1,321	F	F	F

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

Note(s): Figures may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 355-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

For more information, or to order data, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

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